

FAQ – Questions and Answers



SCCPSS In-Person Plan A Phased Hybrid

Approach: SCCPSS has created a plan for the return of students (those *who choose to do so*) in a limited hybrid (two days in-person, three days online each week) format.

*****Virtual Learning will be Available for Families in all phases*****

*****In-Person Options Available based on Staffing Availability*****

PHASE I: VIRTUAL LEARNING MODEL / AUG. 19 - OCT. 5

- WHO? All students (Prek-12)
- LEARNING MODEL: Virtual

PHASE II: LIMITED HYBRID IN-PERSON MODEL // OCT. 5

- WHO? Least Independent Learners (**those previously identified by Specialized Instruction), PreK-2nd grade students, 6th grade students, first-time 9th grade students
- LEARNING MODEL: In-Person (Hybrid) and Virtual Offered

**LEAST INDEPENDENT LEARNERS (LIL) are students who are identified as having a relatively high need for in-person educational services compared to other students based on their particular educational needs. LIL students include those served through certain programs including •Language Enriched Autism Program (LEAP) •Pre-School Intervention •JumpStart •Preparing Students with Autism for Classroom Education (PACE). Students who receive educational services based on Moderate/Severe/Profound Intellectual Disability eligibility are also presumed eligible for LIL status.

- IEP and 504 teams may designate any student with the LIL status based on that student's particular educational needs.
- The designation of LIL status does not guarantee that a student will receive in-person educational services.

PHASE III: EXPANDED HYBRID IN-PERSON MODEL // OCT. 26

- WHO? All students (Includes the addition of grades 3-5, 7, 8, 10-12)
- LEARNING MODEL: In-Person (Hybrid) and Virtual Offered

PHASE IV: IN-PERSON RETURN Tentative return (Requires Green Risk Level)

Phase IV includes a four day in-person model with one day at home online. The "at home day" will allow for deep cleaning and sanitation procedures at all sites across the district.

- WHO? All students (PreK-12)
- LEARNING MODEL: In-Person and Virtual Offered

Data Drives Dates: Phased Approach

SOURCE: Georgia Department of Health, Coastal Health District <https://covid19.gachd.org/community-transmission-index/>

NOTE: Phased In-Person Learning Plan is subject to change based on community health conditions and/or Board action.

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Board Resolution and Meeting Link:

AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION: NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education does hereby acknowledge and approve the actions taken by the Superintendent and administrators in preparation for the phased hybrid return of students to school and the re-opening of school buildings for the purpose of providing educational services; and the Superintendent is hereby authorized to implement the phased in-person hybrid learning option as stipulated by the enclosed guidelines for operation based on the Community Transmission Index and the Daily Case Rate per 100,000, for those families who choose this option and agree to the conditions associated with this specific instructional model, while other families may continue using the virtual learning model. Implementation of the phased in-person learning model will be subject to the constraints of time, building capacity, available staffing, and public health considerations/guidance, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, due to changing facts and circumstances and the fluidity of the situation involving COVID-19, the Board authorizes the Superintendent and administration, after consultation with the Board, to further revise and refine the plans for implementation of the learning models (virtual, hybrid) if a change is so warranted by declining public health conditions and serves the best interest of the safety, health, and wellness of students and staff.

BOARD DOCS:

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BTGQF564F905>

MEETING VIDEO: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W9IIIFXcUok>

Time Code: 3:27:45

COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION INDEX: <https://covid19.gachd.org/community-transmission-index/>

DAILY CASE RATE: <https://covid19.gachd.org/daily-case-rate-per-100000/>

Second Semester Learning Plan Approved

At a Special Called Board Meeting on Friday, November 13, 2020, Board members were presented with the results of surveys of stakeholders regarding the Return to Learn plan for the second semester of the 2020-21 school year. Those survey results along with feedback from Board members during last week's Board workshop were used by district staff to develop a recommendation for the Board regarding a plan for second semester teaching and learning.

The Board approved a resolution to remain in the current Phase III Hybrid-Expanded Learning Model based on the following considerations:

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- All staff will return no later than January 4, 2021
- Social distancing requirements will influence capacity levels in school buildings and on the school bus
- Social distance requirements will create school bus capacity limitations, and as such, transportation services shall be offered on a limited basis as resources allow and/or via the use of an alternate service model such as a hub system
- Transportation demands could necessitate a modification to school schedules
- Adherence to cleaning/sanitation and safety protocols supported by the Centers for Disease Control, the Georgia Department of Health, and the Coastal Health District will be required

It is expected that many students that have been on waitlists will be able to receive in-person learning based on the return of teachers as of January 4, 2021. A survey will be sent to parents to determine their choice of hybrid or continued virtual instruction for their children. Additional students requesting in person instruction will be considered based on capacity limitations per social distancing requirements. Virtual learning shall remain an option for families, should they so choose, for the remainder of the school year.

The earliest point of in-person instruction for second semester is scheduled for January 11, 2021, subject to the November 4, 2020, Board action that defines *Thresholds for Virtual Learning*. The Board Resolution also calls for Expanded In-Person learning options to be offered under the *3-Day/2-Day Rotation with Learning Partner Model* as implemented by the Superintendent on a timeline that is operationally feasible, and only after a review of COVID Transmission Levels has determined that transmission rates are at an acceptable risk as defined by the Board of Education. Such review shall take place no later than February 3, 2021.

Board Docs:

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BVAQTD685519>

Meeting Video:

<https://youtu.be/AzxeJ9PT1A8>

WHAT IS A HYBRID?

The phased return calls for a graduated approach that will include a hybrid model providing 2 days of in-person instruction and 3 days of virtual (Wednesdays remain a Deep Cleaning Day with no staff on site - only limited essential staff allowed).

SCHEDULE: There are 3 student groups – A, B, C

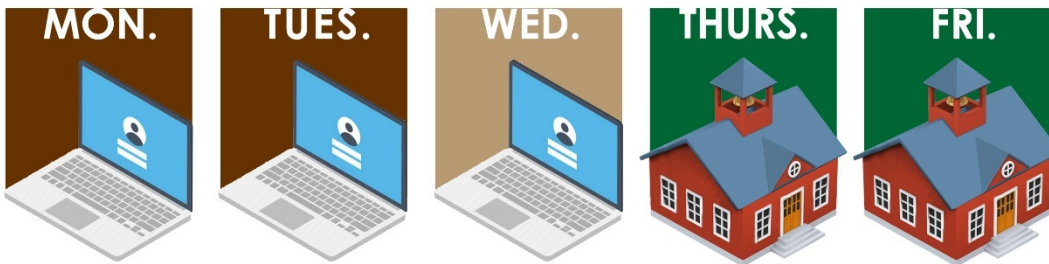
NOTE: Phased In-Person Learning Plan is subject to change based on community health conditions and/or Board action.

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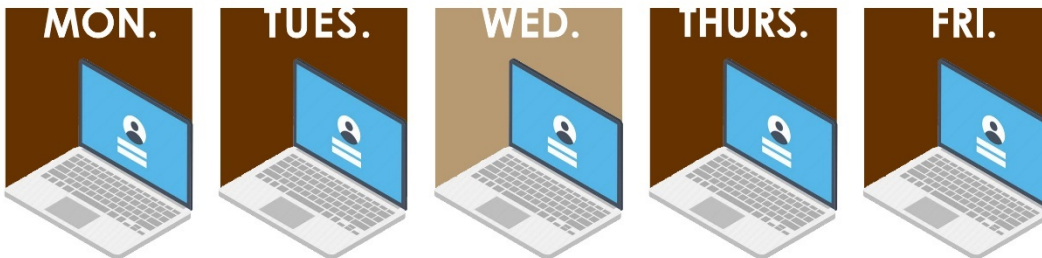
Student Group A



Student Group B



Student Group C



Wednesday remains Deep Clean day – all remote, no staff on site

SCHOOLHOUSE IMAGE = IN-PERSON FOR THOSE WHO CHOOSE IT
LAPTOP IMAGE = VIRTUAL, REMOTE LEARNING

District staff will work to the greatest extent possible to ensure siblings can be placed in the same cohorts to assist parents with planning.

Will Transportation be Provided?

During the Hybrid Learning Phases II and III, Transportation will not be provided to all students. Transportation was provided for our Least Independent Learners in Phase II who were previously identified by Specialized Instruction. It will be provided to more students in Phase III, but is not guaranteed to all due to social distance requirements

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and school bus capacity limitations. Transportation services shall be offered on a limited basis only.

Will Students be Required to Wear Masks?

Students must wear age-appropriate facial coverings (face mask) as directed during learning, in the hallways and common spaces (i.e. restrooms, library, etc.), except while eating/drinking.

Will the District Provide Mask and/or Face Coverings?

The District will have a limited number of masks available for those students who may have misplaced or forgotten them. Parents will be required to provide their own face covering for their children.

What if a student refuses to wear a mask?

Refer to the conditions for in-person learning that were stipulated prior to choosing the in-person learning model. If this condition is not suitable for the student, a virtual model of learning is available.

Once a parent chooses virtual or in-person – can they change their choice at a later date?

The change between virtual and in-person learning models will be considered at the end of the 9-week period and will be managed on a case by case basis. Special situations should be referred to the appropriate Associate Superintendent. The Acknowledgment parents were required to accept when registering said a student choice of hybrid or virtual learning would remain in place through the first semester.

How will parents/guardians know the conditions for in-person learning?

Students and parents must acknowledge and agree to “Conditions of in-person learning” during registration for the hybrid plan prior to beginning this phase.

How will we know when In-Person Phase III will begin?

Monthly 30-day administrative reviews will be conducted to examine data as it relates to the phased approach grid and the respective transmission data points. The information will be shared for Board review and is based upon Community Transmission Index (CTI), Daily Case Rate, and CDC Guidelines

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What are the Conditions for In-Person Learning for students?

Conditions were shared as part of the family survey that was issued on 9/04/2020 and are included in the parent registration link for choosing in-person or virtual. They include:

- Understand the in-person learning option, if chosen, is contingent on staffing availability
- Participate in in-person learning activities/virtual sessions as instructed by school schedule
- Wear age-appropriate facial covering (face mask) as directed during learning, in the hallways and common spaces (i.e. restrooms, library, etc.), except while eating/drinking
- Wear age-appropriate facial covering (face mask) as directed on the bus, if transportation is available.
- Practice physical distancing by having a 6-foot distance between classmates/people at all times (no movement of furniture)
- Agree to temperature checks and answering CDC-based screening questions
- Avoid sharing objects with other students (i.e. including water bottles, devices, writing instruments, books, etc.)
- Engage in regular handwashing for 20 seconds or frequent hand sanitizing
- Follow the directions of school employees
- Follow all school rules as outlined in the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System Student Code of Conduct
- Understand that your child's current teacher(s) may not remain as the child's current teacher(s)
- Understand that your child will be required to self-quarantine for 14 days if he/she is exposed to COVID-19 or lives with someone who tests positive for COVID-19
- Understand that should your child develop or display symptoms of COVID-19, you will be asked to keep your child out of school for a period up to 14 days
- Understand cohort groups remain consistent for ease of contact tracing (if needed)
- Follow staggered times for lunch pick up, recess, car drop off/pick up, and restroom breaks
- Understand there will be no before and after school care provided at any SCCPSS facility
- Students are expected to arrive and depart at their designated school bell times

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Will visitors be allowed entrance into schools?

Visitors will not be allowed unless they are performing business necessary for the operation of the school or are a parent/guardian with viable education related business that necessitates an in-person meeting. Parents who need to enter the schools may do so by appointment.

Other Precautions:

- Visitors will be limited to a designated area defined by the school unless they are doing business on campus necessary for the operation of the school.
- Visitors that are doing business on campus will have a temperature check and symptom check.
- When dropping off items for students, parents will drop items off at a pre-determined, designated area, drop off items, and exit the building.
- A visitor that has a temperature at or above 100.4 or has symptoms will not be allowed on campus and their company will be notified.
- Beginning Sept 28 any family requiring assistance with school registration may do so by appointment at the school using a designated area that has social distancing available. Registration assistance shall be made by appointment only. Families are encouraged to use the online option first and may also gain assistance at the SCCPSS Student and Family Service Center located at 400 East Broad Street in Savannah.

How will activities (like recess) that create opportunities for students to gather be managed?

Schools will follow staggered times for lunch pick up, recess, car drop off/pick up, and restroom breaks to mitigate high concentration. Specific to Recess:

To keep students safe and healthy, scheduling and cleaning protocols will be utilized.

Scheduling of Recess:

- Students will be assigned to a core group or pod.
- Designated play areas will be created.
- Staggered times will be implemented to eliminate large groups.
- Traffic flow will be managed to utilize multiple ingress and egress points.

Cleaning:

- Request custodial team spray down work areas, to include, but not limited to classrooms, media center, cafeteria and computer labs with industrial sprayer on the scheduled deep cleaning day.
- Staff will clean work areas, to include, but not limited to computer, desk, and writing utensils frequently.
- Ensure inner (classroom) bathrooms are sanitized after each use.
- Sanitize all high touch areas frequently, to include, but not limited to doorknobs, light switch, desktops, tables, chairs.

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Will teachers who have been teaching students virtually since August 19th remain with those students when in-person begins?

A student's current teacher(s) may not remain as the child's current teacher(s) during in-person instruction on the hybrid-models. However, the teacher(s) of record will remain through the first marking period.

Will a virtual option be offered throughout the school year?

Yes, a virtual learning option will be available in all phases for families who choose this option.

For students that are in-person on the hybrid model, will meals be offered in the cafeteria?

No. Students will not eat meals in the cafeteria. A grab and go set up will be offered to allow meal pick up and time to consume meals in the classroom. Meals will be specially packaged for ease of pick up.

Will the meal service be provided at bus stops across the county?

Yes, during Phase III, meal service will continue as currently offered by bus stops (Mon., Wed., Fri. schedule). USDA did provide a universal waiver to feed all students regardless of eligibility. There will be no cost for lunch for students. Please note that both breakfast and lunch will be at no cost to all children ages 0-18, just as was offered in the spring. The parent will need to supply some form of identification to identify the child(ren) for whom they are picking up the meal(s) that fall in the category of 0-18 years of age.

*****NOTE – The waiver that provides no cost lunch to families has been extended through the end of the 2020-21 School Year.***

Will the existing bell schedule remain the same?

No. The bell schedule has been modified for the start of Phase III to allow for more time needed due to socially distanced transportation services allowing fewer students on a bus at a time.

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Will the technology devices that have been issued to students remain with them if they are participating during the In-Person Hybrid Model?

Yes. Students will be required to keep the device with them as they engage in schoolwork in-person at school and online at home during the hybrid model.

If a parent purchases insurance on a device and that device is broken, does the parent have to purchase new insurance on the replacement device?

No. The family protection plan is for the year and only must be paid once. The device can be replaced up to 2 times. For questions or additional assistance on this topic contact Tammy Kemp. Email: tammy.kemp@sccpss.com